

Companions,
 "... And the wisest knows not how soon"
 When life changing events are presented to us. The most valuable gifts the Great Architect of the Universe can give us is the bonds that support us in times of turmoil and uncertainty. We have entered a new capitular year. A new year is a time of renewal, resolution, and determination to make this year better than all years before. The most valuable assets of our organization are the members, who come together for fellowship and enrichment. I challenge each and every companion to contact a Companion we haven't seen in Chapter and ensure he has the opportunity to participate. Together, we can eliminate the obstacles and ensure that all Companions have the opportunity to participate and be informed." Blessed be the tie that binds ...", for we are only as strong as our weakest link. Regular communication should be welcomed in our chapter. The trestleboard and telephone reminders are essential when chapter events occur, either regular stated convocations, or various special events. Our communication links must remain strong to ensure that we have full participation for Chapter events and our ability to plan to ensure all are provided for. Four days before our Chapter Convocation, I experienced an event that "slowed me to a crawl" for a while. I am thankful that the outcome was positive. I look at this time in my life as a time to pause, reflect, and absorb the gifts presented to me in my life. I am blessed by friends, family, and associates who remind me of the positives that we so easily overlook. By "Being a Part of it", the gifts and rewards are not measured in dollars, material presents, or social status. These are

gifts and rewards from the heart and soul. Gifts that flow with warmth, love, and concern from the bonds we build everyday. Your cards and thoughts of concern are appreciated and will be remembered, till my time is no more ...Our December Convocation will be on **17 DECEMBER** a Joint Convocation with Annandale Chapter on Dec 17. This is Annandale Chapter's annual Holiday Celebration. A **pot-luck supper** at 6:30. Every person is encouraged to bring a gender-specific **gift under \$10.00** to exchange. I encourage every companion and their family to join us, as we take time during the holiday season to pause during the hustle and bustle of the season, and take time to remember the true spirit of the season. I pray for a happy, healthy, and prosperous Holiday Season for you, your family, and your particular "circle of friends".
 S&F
 Mark A. Harford

"200 Years of Royal Arch Excellence"

"Be A Part Of it"

Trestle board

Remember, we serve refreshments at 6:30 before every Arlington 35 meeting.

3 Dec District School Annandale 7PM
17 December Stated. At Elmer Timberman Lodge, Annandale.

Laugh of the month:

You might be a Mason if you hear three knocks at your front door, and you get up and give a dueguard!

Fifty Year Members

John P. Funkhouser	1949
David H. Graham	1950
Elgin B. Kirby	1950
Henry J. Bausili	1952
Oscar L. Buchanan	1945
Robert A. Kelly	1949
Elwood S. Nichols	1949
William T. Guise	1950
James W. Brown, Jr.	1951
Robert L. Connor	1951
John E. Wise	1952
John G. Dudley Jr.	1953
Walter W. Cosby Jr.	1955
Wilbert Kahoun	1954
Cleveland F. Oliver	1955
James W. Smith	1956
Wallace D. Thompson	1956
James H. Banton Jr.	1958
Robert F. Brown	1958
Roland R. Russell	1958

From the editor:

Companions as I have stated previously, my access to less expensive copy services has come to an end. While I used to make copies for 5 cents, the cost now is 14 cents. Currently 13 members receive copies via e-mail. We also post the newsletter to www.varorkrite.org **If you would like to join the electronic distribution, either via e-mail or thru the web, please contact me.** John Bullach. Editor at WMS Sharon32706@aol.com

CONGRATULATIONS to Right Excellent **Ralph Taylor Woodrow**, our new District 3 District Deputy Grand High Priest! We look forward to your year.

THANK YOU to Right Excellent **Terence H. DuVall** our immediate Past District Deputy Grand High Priest. Thanks for your help, and your frequent attendance at our convocations.

Capitular Birthdays

NOVEMBER

Elgin B. Kirby	1950
John Sabanosh	1966
John R. Wigglesworth Jr.	1969
Orval J. Smith	1975
Jerry G. Oliver	1992
David Hull	2001

Educational point:

Notes from the Grand Chapter Annual Convocation 14-15 November. Most Excellent Dale John Gurney is our new Grand Commander. Only 189 Virginia companions were officially present, joining about 25 visitors from other jurisdictions. My count was that 10 Chapters did not answer the role call, which is the highest absentee list I have witnessed. Proposition 1 was approved. District 12 was eliminated with active chapters re-allocated between districts 9, 10 and 14. Proposition 2 was also approved creating the "Ish Soda Award" for recognition of service to the Grand Chapter. There was some debate about the name chosen. Resolution 1 dealing with the elected Grand Line was defeated, which caused Resolution 2

to be withdrawn. Resolution 3 was also withdrawn for re-working. The Grand High Priest will assign a committee to work on a more exact plan. All three District 3 Chapters joined the 11 Chapters state wide to receive the Robert Claiborne Wilson Award.

John Bullach, PHP